Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, March 1, 2021, at 3 p.m.

House of Representatives

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2021

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
February 26, 2021.

I hereby appoint the Honorable HENRY CUELLAR to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

To You, who is able to do more than we can ask or imagine, we come asking You to do the unimaginable in the face of the devastation that the COVID pandemic has wrought on our country.

Holy God, enable us to wield carefully the power You have entrusted to us. As we work to provide relief to the unemployed and to aid small businesses struggling to survive, help us to be singular in our purpose, not distracted by special interests. May we be wise in how we use this opportunity to make a difference in the lives of Americans and responsible to the scarce and precious resources entrusted to us.

On this day of Purim in the Jewish tradition, maybe it will take a miracle for us to come to consensus. But at such a time as this, may we risk our partisan postures to stand together to address the needs and welfare of our compatriots.

It is in the strength of Your name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 5(a)(1)(A) of House Resolution 8, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from New Hampshire (Ms. KUSTER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. KUSTER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE NEED OUR HELP

(Mr. TAKANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker:

(English translation of the statement made in Spanish by Mr. TAKANO is as follows:)

The American people need our help.

That's why Democrats have been fighting for more economic relief. President Biden's stimulus package will help the people who need it the most and it will make investments to improve vaccine distribution, to open our schools, and to support small businesses.

Thousands of families in my district are worried because they don't know how they will pay their rent and the Latino community has been the most affected by this virus.

We have to help everyone during these difficult times and ensure that the communities that have been most affected have access to the vaccine.

Congress must approve this legislative package immediately. There is not time to waste.

El pueblo americano necesita ayuda.

Es por eso que los Demócratas estamos luchando por mas ayuda económica. El paquete de estimulo económico del presidente Biden ayudará a las personas que mas lo necesitan y hará inversiones para mejorar la distribución de las vacunas, para abrir nuestras escuelas, y para apoyar a los pequeños negocios.

Miles de familias en mi distrito tienen angustia porque no saben como van a pagar su renta. Y la comunidad latina ha sido la más afectada por este virus.